

10

App. F. IX-4

Previous References

✓
1940-1
(War)

W File No. 18-40
Serial Nos. 1 to 4

Later References.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. Four only

Part B for March 1941

SUBJECT.

Dogs of War.

M. Krishnan.
26/3/41

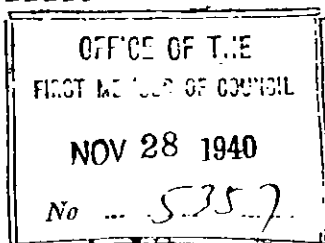
W18-40-1

1700
C.S.

The reply to this communication should be addressed to the Secretary to the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore, by designation and not by name.

CONFIDENTIAL.

No.F.99-40/W.



FROM

THE SECRETARY TO THE HON'BLE THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

The Chief Secretary to the Government of

His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

Subd.

Dated Bangalore, the 28th November 1940.1st member
Dewan11/5
28/11

D O G S O F W A R.

SIR,

RM

28/11/40

M

29-11-40

C.C. may be
can be used as
to supply the need
+ this letter.11/5
38/11

I am directed to state that experiments in training dogs for patrol work on the North-West Frontier have recently been tried by the military authorities. They have failed because the average soldier is incapable of training a dog to the requisite high standard and also because suitable dogs were not used. Nevertheless the Defence Department of the Government of India propose to persist in the experiments and to that end are taking up the question of establishing a Dog Training Centre for the Indian Army. In addition, it has been suggested that certain Indian States, particularly those with Indian States Forces Units whose role has been defined as "Defence of the Frontiers of India", might be prepared to assist by making simultaneous experiments. The advantage which States would possess, whose units have been allotted the role of Frontier Defence, is that the experiments could be conducted to completion by actual experience with the personnel of the State concerned under service conditions.

2. The only breeds of dog which are said to be suitable for this experiment are Alsations, Dobermanns and Airedales, and the opinion has been expressed by an expert that training should commence before the age of 18 months.

3. The system of training which has been found successful by the armies of other countries is as follows. After a period of training (length of period is not known) in a peace station the dog

is taken to its allotted company by its trainer. The trainer remains with the company for about three weeks until the dog has become familiar with its new master. The latter is chosen from volunteers who are dog lovers.

During the same period the dog is also accustomed to all men of the reconnaissance party with whom it will have to work later. This period of adoption being over, the dog must obey its new master and from that moment it must take its part in the reconnaissance under his direction. The dog is considered satisfactory and sufficiently trained when it is able to work under the following conditions: -

- " Precede silently the patrol at a distance of about 30-40 yards assuring itself, by turning its head, that the rest of the patrol are following. Scenting the presence of people, strangers to the reconnaissance party at a distance of about 30-40 yards away, the dog must warn the reconnaissance party by returning silently to its master's side. At no moment must the dog bark or growl; a dog which barks or growls during a patrol is sent back as unsuitable. At the end of every reconnaissance the dog immediately returns with its master to the Company Headquarters. It must never stay in the front line".

Some further information in regard to training dogs for war is, it is understood, contained in a book written by a Colonel Richardson, copies of which are presumably available with certain booksellers.

4. The experiment should, it is considered, be conducted either -

- (1) by the States concerned providing ten dogs at their own expense, out of which 8 might be expected to train successfully, thus providing one per company of two battalions of infantry, or
- (2) waiting for a period of some months until the Indian Army Dog Training Centre has been established and is in a position to supply dogs to the States concerned.

5. Although no Mysore Indian States Forces Unit has been allotted the role of "Frontier Defence", His Excellency the Crown Representative would be glad to have, as early as possible, the views of the Government of Mysore on the proposal.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
A. H. C. A. M.
Secretary to the Resident.

Dogs of War 1703

Serial
No.

Subd with a draft and fair h to C.C with rye
to Dewan order on the P.D.

RS
31/11

for
C.C.
30/11

Issued 2307 to 30th Nov. for h to C.C.

From The C.C. M.S.T.

3941-C.C. 20-12/39 to 3rd Dec. of Stating that
Govt was r/y that they are not willing to take up the
suggestion in Para 4 (1)

Subd with a draft r/y to the R. Secy
on the lines of the C.C's letter for approval or
other order.

RS
5/12

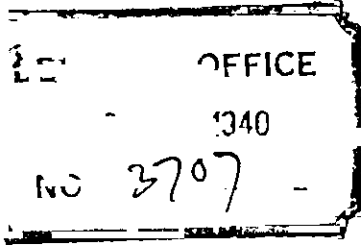
C.C. 5/12

Chief Secy
(Dewan)

MS
5/12

all
7/12/40 MS
7/12

Issued P.D. 805 to 7th Dec. for h to R. Secy.



W 18-40-2

SECRET.

No. 2307/C.B.
Encl: 1

30th November 1940.

The Chief Commandant,
Mysore State Troops,
Bangalore.

DOGS OF WAR.

I am directed to enclose herein a copy of Residency letter No.F.99-40/W dated the 28th November 1940 on the above subject, and to request you kindly to intimate as to the reply that may be sent to the Residency in the matter.

I have the honour to be,,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,


For Chief Secretary to Government.



Letter No.F.99-40/W dated the 28th November 1940 from the Secretary to the Resident to the Chief Secretary to Govt.

- - - - -

DOGS OF WAR.

I am directed to state that experiments in training dogs for patrol work on the North-West Frontier have recently been tried by the military authorities. They have failed because the average soldier is incapable of training a dog to the requisite high standard and also because suitable dogs were not used. Nevertheless Defence Department of the Government of India propose to persist in the experiments and to that end are taking up the question of establishing a Dog Training Centre for the Indian ~~States~~ Army. In addition, it has been suggested that certain Indian States, particularly those with Indian States Forces Units whose role has been defined as "Defence of the Frontiers of India", might be prepared to assist by making simultaneous experiments. The advantage which States would possess, whose units have been allotted the role of Frontier Defence, is that the experiments could be conducted to completion by actual experience with the personnel of the State concerned under service conditions.

2. The only breeds of dog which are said to be suitable for this experiment are Alsations, Dobermanns and Airedales, and the opinion has been expressed by an expert that training should commence before the age of 18 months.

3. The system of training which has been found successful by the armies of other countries is as follows. After a period of training (length of period is not known) in a peace station the dog is taken to its allotted company by its trainer. The trainer remains with the company for about three weeks until the dog has become familiar with its new master. The latter is chosen from volunteers who are dog lovers

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the reconnaissance party with whom it will have to work later. This period of adoption being over, the dog must obey its new master and from that moment it must take its part in the reconnaissance under his direction. The dog is considered satisfactory and sufficiently trained when it is able to work under the following conditions:-

"Precede silently the patrol at a distance of about 30-40 yards assuring itself, by turning its head, that the rest of the patrol are following. Scenting the presence of people, strangers to the reconnaissance party at a distance of about 30-40 yards away, the dog must warn the reconnaissance party by returning silently to its master's side. At no moment must the dog bark or growl; a dog which barks or growls during a patrol is sent back as unsuitable. At the end of every reconnaissance the dog immediately returns with its master to the company headquarters. It must never stay in the front line".

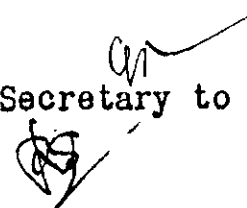
Some further information in regard to training dogs for war is, it is understood, contained in a book written by a Colonel Richardson, copies of which are presumably available with certain booksellers.

4. The experiment should, it is considered, be conducted either-

- (1) by the States concerned providing ten dogs at their own expense, out of which 8 might be expected to train successfully, thus providing one per company of two battalions of infantry, or
- (2) waiting for a period of some months until the Indian Army Dog Training Centre has been established and is in a position ~~xx~~ to supply dogs to the States concerned.

5. Although no Mysore Indian States Forces Unit has been allotted the role of "Frontier Defence", His Excellency the Crown Representative would be glad to have, as early as possible, the views of the Govt. of Mysore on the proposal.

- - - - -
"C O P Y"


For Chief Secretary to Government.

W 18-40-3

C. C. O. 1.]

MYSORE STATE TROOPS.

Telephone No. { 2442 (office)
2662 (table)

Telegr. Address :

STATROOPS

No. 3941 - C.C. 28-12/39

SECRET

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMANDANT,

Bangalore, dated 3rd December 1940.

FROM

COL. M. D. VIGORS, D.S.O., M.C.,

Chief Commandant,

Mysore State Troops, Bangalore.

TO

The Chief Secretary
to the Government of His Highness
the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

CB. in
4/12

SIR,

Subject:- Dogs of War

With reference to your letter No. 2307/C.B. dated 30th November 1940, forwarding a copy of Residency letter No. F.99-40/W dated 28th November 1940 on the above subject, I have the honour to suggest that Government may reply that they are not willing to take up the suggestion in para 4 (i) of the Residency letter quoted above but if dogs are supplied to the 1st Battalion as in para 4 (2) of the same letter they have no objection to an attempt being tried to train dogs for patrol purposes by that Battalion.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

M. Vignos
Col.,
Chief Commandant,
Mysore State Troops.

BB

MGK.

SECRET

7th December 1940.

Pl 809

Major A.E. H. Macann,
Secretary to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore,
Bangalore.

DOGS OF WAR.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.F.99-40/W dated 28th November 1940 on the above subject, and to state that this Government do not desire to take up the suggestion in paragraph 4(1) of your above letter, but if dogs are supplied to the 1st Battalion of the State Infantry in accordance with the proposal in paragraph 4(2), this Government will have no objection to an attempt being made to train the dogs for patrol purposes by that Battalion.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,



Chief Secretary to Government.



SUBJECT.....

Section W

File No. 18-40

Serial No. 4

Diary No. of letter replied to.....

Secret

No. Pol 809

To

The Secy to the Honble the Minister

Dogs of War

General and Revenue Secretariat

the

19

Date of issue.....

7. 12. 1940

Signed by

Mr. B. T. K.

List of enclosures.....

Copied by

Examined by

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter no F 99-40/W d 28th Nov-40 on the above subject and ~~to inform you that~~ ^{and} ~~to inform you that~~ ^{is that} that the Govt do not desire ~~to take up the~~ ^{are unable to take up the} suggestion in Para 4 (1) of your above letter, but if dogs are supplied to the 1st Battalion ^{of the State Infantry} in accordance with the proposal in Para 4 (2) ~~that the Govt have no~~ ^{the Govt. will be glad to have} no objection ~~to~~ ^{to} an attempt being made ~~to~~ ^{to} train dogs for patrol

purpose of that Battalion.

I have the

GA.

MS
5/12

Ching Seng to York